entitled "Statistics on Closures Retrenchments and Lay-offs in Industries in India during the year 2001", there was an increase of 23.8% in the number of workers retrenched in 2001 over the previous year.

(b) During the years 2000-01, 2001 -02 and 2002-03, the number of workers retrenched was 3280, 3594 and 3952 respectively.

(c) the major reasons for retrenchment have been financial stringency, lack of demand, shortage of raw material and shortage of power.

Non-remittance of EPF contribution to the EPFO

2026. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of companies including the Central and State public sector undertakings have defaulted in remittance of Employees Provident Fund contributions to the EPFO;

(b) if so, the details of defaulters and the amount due, State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken to realise these dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are given in the enclosed Statement (See below).

(c) Besides the regular penal action as provided in the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, the following additional steps have also been taken for recovery of outstanding dues;

(i) Representation in courts has been strengthened to get stay order vacated and counter writ-petitons filed.

(ii) The Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund has approved setting up of a separate Directorate of Recovery to monitor and co-ordinate recovery work including closer coordination with B.I.F.R., standing Counsel of the Organisation etc.

Statement

Details of State-wise defaulting establishment as on 31.03.2003.

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No	Region	Number of establishments	Amount in default
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1382	113.33
2.	Bihar	74	46.68
3.	Chhattisgarh	225	14.79
4.	Delhi	312	23.05
5.	Goa	84	1.75
6.	Gujarat	2169	45.19
7.	Himachal Pradesh	138	3.76
8.	Haryana	1040	62.76
9.	Jharkhand	131	25.98
10.	Karnataka	1318	89.56
11.	Kerala	3376	67.15
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1892	93.23
13.	Maharashtra	2176	183.73
14.	North East Region	306	32.63
15.	Orissa	1217	71.65
16.	Punjab	1933	34.14
17.	Rajasthan	1382	29.42
18.	Tamil Nadu	6289	120.96
19.	Uttar Pradesh	2420	117.12
20.	Uttaranchal	81	9.92
21.	West Bengal	1832	324.99
	TOTAL:	29777	1511.79